

# Neighborhoods in the Know

A GREENVILLE POLICE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



## March 2012 ISSUE

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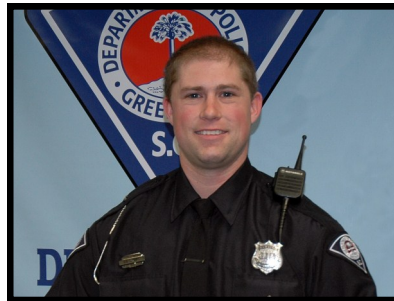
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## New Officers on Patrol



*Officer B.D. Sanders*



*Officers B.L. Prince, D.A. Scott, A.L. Jacobs, J.H. Smith, and A.R. Sturman*

*Fran Moore, Darlene Felton, Martha McKinney, Casey Rampey, Ryan Henderson, and Cindy Terry*

**Congratulations** to the recent promotions in our Communications Department on February 16, 2012.

Fran Moore was promoted to Communications Administrator and Martha McKinney became the new Assistant Communications Administrator.

Cindy Terry was promoted to Communications Specialist III. Darlene Felton, Casey Rampey, and Ryan Henderson were all promoted to Communications Specialist II.

We congratulate our recent graduates of South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy after successfully completing the 12-week Basic Law Enforcement Training. Officers A.L. Jacobs and A.R. Sturman were both recipients of the Challenge Run Ribbon. These officers have begun their training and are now assigned to a Field Training Officer on patrol.

## Firearms Instructor

Corporal Mike Estes has been with our Training Division since May, 2011. He recently achieved his certification as Firearms Instructor from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy. This was four days of instruction and Estes achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> in his class with an overall score of 298 out of 300.



*Cpl Estes giving some pointers to Maj Gambrell*





The Julie Valentine Luncheon was held on February 14<sup>th</sup> at the TD Center and was hosted by the Julie Valentine Center. The Center's heroic survivors shared their stories, as did guest speaker Elizabeth Smart. It was an opportunity to celebrate successes of the Center and those who they have helped over the past year and their plans for this year.

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the Greenville Rape Crisis and Child Abuse Center was renamed the Julie Valentine Center. This was facilitated with the help of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce Greenville Leadership Class 37 who took the location as a project, updated the grounds, and dedicated it to Julie Valentine for all the abused and neglected children in Greenville County.

The Julie Valentine Center provides many services to the victims, their families, to law enforcement, and victim advocates. Some of those services include:

**Community education** - outreach programs for the community to raise awareness on personal safety, sexual harassment, bullying, safe touching, and building self-esteem specific to age and gender groups; peer-to-peer encouragement through Parents Anonymous Community Support Groups; building healthy, loving family relationships through the Nurturing Parenting program; and strengthening fatherhood skills through the Fathers are Essential Program.

**Services for Children** - Provide forensic medical examinations; conduct forensic interviews essential for assessment and investigation; facilitate a team approach to services among law enforcement, DSS, the Solicitor's Office, medical and mental health professionals; and coordinate and provide services in a child friendly environment.

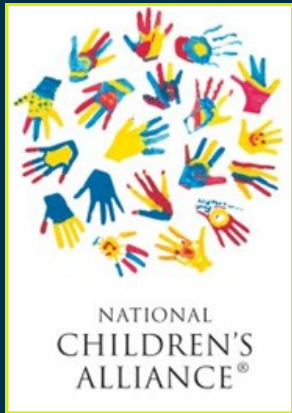
**Rape Crisis Support** - Rape Crisis Hotline, available 24/7; offers emotional support during sexual assault exams; and provides information and resources to ensure the victim's rights are protected

**Treatment** - Provides trauma-focused therapy by licensed professionals for children and adult victims of sexual assault and abuse; offers support and education group sessions for child and adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, including a Non-offending caregiver group (to support parents and caregivers whose children have been sexually abused) and Safe Families (intensive support, education, and engagement group for parents and caregivers whose children have been affected by sexual abuse)

So who was Julie Valentine? On a misty, rainy day in February, a man stopped by a field off of Verdae Blvd to pick some wild flowers for his wife for Valentine's Day. Tragically, he found a deceased infant that had been put in a vacuum cleaner box and left out in the field. The scene was very somber as Greenville Police Department officers and detectives, Forensics, and the Victim/Witness Advocate diligently looked for clues to help identify the mother. Captain Christy and some of the other detectives named the baby Julie Valentine since she was found close to Valentine's Day. Juliana Christy, the Victim/Witness Advocate for the department then, contacted all the hospitals, clinics, and doctor's offices in the immediate and surrounding area to see if the mother may have come in for assistance but had no luck. A tombstone was donated for the baby to be buried and every year a vigil was held to remember her and to hopefully allow someone to come forward with information. This tragedy "opened the lines of communication within the community," according to Mrs. Christy, to bring more awareness about child abuse and solutions to help prevent it. The Julie Valentine Center states that their "inspiration comes from [her]. Adopted by the community, her legacy has become a symbol of hope for those who have survived rape or child abuse." Hopefully one day this cold case can be solved and Julie Valentine can have her closure.



Elizabeth Smart



Victims' stories attached to a pair of shoes

**On January 30<sup>th</sup>,** a witness reported seeing Allen Antonio Griffin removing items from a home on Green Avenue. Upon arrival, Officer JD Bragg located Griffin in the back yard holding a table and a side door to the home open. The property did appear vacant but contact was made with the owner of the property who stated she wanted charges to be made. Griffin was placed under arrest and charged with Petit Larceny.



**On February 17<sup>th</sup>,** a resident at Shemwood Crossing Apartments called the police to report that she saw two suspects firing weapons at each other outside. She tried to get inside her apartment but was struck in the arm by a bullet. A white Crown Vic was seen fleeing the scene. The vehicle was registered to Octavia Hopkins. After further investigation, the suspect was identified as Santonia Roderiguez Wilson. A warrant was issued for his arrest. His girlfriend, Octavia Hopkins, was charged with Accessory after a Felony. She reportedly drove him away from the scene after the incident. Wilson was located and arrested on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and charged with Attempted Murder.

**Officers CB Powell and KA Donahue responded** to an assault just occurred on February 16<sup>th</sup>. The suspect, Rickia Marica Shaw, stated that

she found pornographic magazines that belonged to her boyfriend and they got into a verbal altercation and she threatened to kill him. Shaw admitted to the confrontation and destruction of property and was transported to the Detention Center. During transport, Shaw kicked out the driver side back window of the transporting officer's vehicle. The charges against Shaw were Attempted Murder, Malicious Damage, and Resisting Arrest.

**On February 18<sup>th</sup>,** Herbert Dean Rice was arrested after a witness reported seeing him loitering around the property of 205 E Broad Street. Witness stated Rice left the area and returned shortly to the back of the building and proceeded to take a nearby brick and break a glass window. The witness called the police. When Officer NH Smith arrived on scene, he found Rice inside the building and Rice admit-

ted to entering the building to remove copper wiring he had seen lying around. Rice was arrested and charged with Burglary.

**Officer CR Kellett responded** to Club Cream on February 19<sup>th</sup> in reference to a stabbing. Two victims reported being attacked by a group of males and stabbed outside the club early Sunday morning. One victim was stabbed in the neck and the other was stabbed in the chest, head and back. Rodricus Lamont Smith was arrested trying to flee the scene. Smith faces charges of Attempted Murder, Possession of a Knife During a Violent Crime, Unlawful Weapon and Open Container. The fight was reportedly about the two victims talking to women in the parking lot.



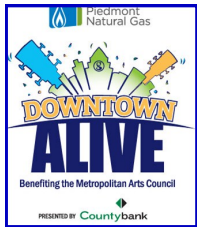
# Upcoming Events in the City



**The Reedy River Run** is back! Starting on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Children's Fun Run will begin at 5:45 pm on S Main Street. Then on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the 5K/10K race will begin at 8:30 am and 8:50 am, respectively. The 10K course starts at Main and McBee, in front of the Carolina First building. The 5K course also starts at Main and McBee, in front of the Carolina First building. Much of the course will be closed to traffic, while other sections will be coned off for runners, with Greenville Police Officers and course volunteers monitoring those areas. Traffic will be controlled at major intersections by Greenville Police Officers.



On March 10<sup>th</sup>, the Greenville Hospital Systems Half Marathon and 5K road race will start in Travelers Rest at 8 am and finish in downtown Greenville. Flat and Fast Course for the 5k and Half Marathon will mostly take place on the Swamp Rabbit Trail. This Event will celebrate the GHS Centennial Anniversary of Servicing our Community.



Starting on March 15<sup>th</sup>, every Thursday evening downtown will host an outdoor street party featuring live musical entertainment with varied sounds including rock, blues, funk and cover bands. Main Street serves as the perfect backdrop to this free event series where people can unwind by meeting up with friends, making new acquaintances and networking.

A popular staple in Greenville during the months of March through August, Downtown Alive attracts approximately 45,000 people annually. The event serves as the single largest fundraiser for the Metropolitan Arts Council, a supporter of arts-related programs in Greenville and the Upstate.

At 3 pm on Thursday afternoon, Main Street will be closed from Beattie to E North Street until 11 pm. The event will be held in front of the Hyatt Regency Plaza.

Beginning March 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm, the BB&T Main Street Fridays at The Hyatt will host its 28-week free music series. Each week throughout the event series features a variety of musical genres and styles. In addition, a children's activity area and special promotional events add to the family fun.



At 3 pm on Thursday afternoon, Main Street will be closed from Beattie to E North Street until 11 pm. The event will be held in front of the Hyatt Regency Plaza.



Have you ever wondered what makes a police department run? Or have you ever wanted to go on a ride-along with a police officer? Now is your opportunity. The Greenville Police Department is hosting their Citizens' Education Academy which has been designed as a mechanism to bridge the gap between Law Enforcement and the citizens that the GPD serves. At each session, citizens will have an opportunity to learn from various divisions within the department, as well as from the honorable Judge Hawley, on how our department functions, the services offered and avenues to find help. The paramount idea is to educate the public about the operations of the Greenville Police Department so that preconceived notions can be dispelled. The program begins on Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm until 8:30 pm and will be every Tuesday evening until May 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact Officer Palmer, [cpalmer@greenvillesc.gov](mailto:cpalmer@greenvillesc.gov) or 467-5147, for more information or an application. We look forward to sharing our department with you.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**  
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**Emergency : 911**

**Non-Emergency Police Dispatch & Information: 271-5333**

**Greenville Police Tip Line: 271-GCPD (4273)**

**Front Desk: 467-5258**

**Victim Services: 467-5373**

**Investigations: 467-5342**

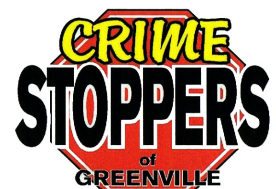
**Uniform Patrol: 467-5325**

**Special Events Coordinator: 467-5014**

**City of Greenville Website: [www.greenvillesc.gov](http://www.greenvillesc.gov)**

**Police Website: [www.police.greenvillesc.gov/](http://www.police.greenvillesc.gov/)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)**



**23-CRIME OR 232-**



**Call 232-CARE or 232-2273**